

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 04599 100758Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SSC-01 /031 W
-----044899 101023Z /21

R 100634Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1177
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

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USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY
USNMR SHAPE FOR POLAD
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINR PGOV NL
SUBJECT: FORMATION OF DUTCH GOVERNMENT X

REF: THE HAGUE 4521

1. EFFORTS BY CARETAKER PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL AND "INFORMATEUR"
VERINGA TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT ARE PROGRESSING WELL, BUT
CERTAIN CHANGES IN TOP DUTCH GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL ALREADY
HAVE BEEN MADE AS REQUIRED BY LAW. THE DUTCH CONSTITUTION
REQUIRES THAT A DUTCH MINISTER OR STATE SECRETARY WHO ALSO
HAS BEEN ELECTED TO PARLIAMENT MUST, AFTER THREE MONTHS,
CHOOSE EITHER TO REMAIN WITH THE MINISTRY OR TO RETAIN A
SEAT IN PARLIAMENT. BECAUSE THE PERIOD OF CABINET FORMATION HAS
LASTED LONGER THAN THREE MONTHS, THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TOOK
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PLACE ON SEPT 8: (1) VAN AGT RESIGNED HIS POSTS AS MINISTER
OF JUSTICE AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IN ORDER TO RETAIN HIS
POSITION OF HEAD OF HIS PARTY (CDA) IN PARLIAMENT. QUEEN
JULIANA APPOINTED INTERIOR MINISTER DE GAAY FORTMAN TO SUCCEED
VAN AGT IN BOTH POSITIONS. (2) THE FOLLOWING STATE SECRETARIES
RESIGNED IN ORDER TO RETAIN THEIR SEATS IN PARLIAMENT:
L. BRINKHORST - FOREIGN AFFAIRS, H. ZEEVALKING - JUSTICE,

G. KLEIN - EDUCATION, J. SCHAEFER AND M. VAN DAM - HOUSING,
T. HAZEKAMP - ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, W. MEIJER - CULTURAL AFFAIRS,
RECREATION AND WELFARE.

2. BY OPTING FOR HIS SEAT IN THE SECOND CHAMBER, VAN AGT IS
RETAINING THE POSITION FROM WHICH HE CAN WIELD THE GREATEST
INFLUENCE DURING THE PERIOD OF CABINET FORMATION. BY
CONTINUING AS HEAD OF HIS PARLIAMENTARY FACTION, VAN AGT
REMAINS THE NEGOTIATOR FOR THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC APPEAL
(CDA) IN THE FORMATION TALKS; HAD HE STAYED ON AS MINISTER
OF JUSTICE, HE WOULD HAVE GIVEN UP A DIRECT PART IN THE
DISCUSSIONS. VAN AGT--AND THE RECENTLY RESIGNED STATE SECRE-
TARIES--ARE NOT PRECLUDED FROM LEAVING PARLIAMENT LATER ON
TO JOIN THE NEW GOVERNMENT AS A MINISTER OR STATE SECRETARY.
MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977THEHA04599
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770328-0844
Format: TEL
From: THE HAGUE USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770976/aaaacmtd.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ae238648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 THE HAGUE 4521
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1315778
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FORMATION OF DUTCH GOVERNMENT X
TAGS: PINR, PGOV, NL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ae238648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009